ii. The loans have been granted on sufficient security. Government are waiting to see if the recovery could not be made without requiring the company to go into liquidation.

The supply and sale of two-pie Anchal Stamps.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

275. Will the Government be pleased to mention:—

(a) The cost of printing and getting two-pies Anchal stamps annually in the last three years;

(b) The amount realised by the Government in selling those stamps after paying the sale commission;

(c) The name of the firm from or through whom the stamps are received;

(d) Whether there is any agreement with that firm for supplying the Government with stamps for any definite period;

(e) The terms of agreement, if there is an agreement?

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

(a) The stamps are generally got down to last for a period of 3 years or more, and payment is made after counting and bringing them to stock. The quantity required for a particular year is not, therefore, got down in the same year, and the quantity issued in the year will not generally be what was received in the year. The quantity brought to stock and the price paid for the last 3 years are shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity stocked.*	*Price paid.*
1098.	Nil	Nil
1099.	5,000 sheets.	Rs. 2,200
1100.	6,004 ,,	Rs. 2,641—12—2

(b)	*Quantity sold.*	*Amount realised.*
1098.	8,741 ½ sheets.	Rs. 4,152— 3—5
1099.	7,226 ½ ,,	Rs. 3,432— 9—5
1100.	3,974 ½ ,,	Rs. 1,887—14—5

(c) Messrs. John Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London.

(d) No.

(e) No answer is required.

The inadequate salary of the low-paid servants of the State.

Mr. M. KRISHNA MENON.

276. Will the Government be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the cost of living has increased enormously since the Great War?

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